

---

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, July 25, 1814, from  
Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence,  
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,  
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

-----

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson**

Washington July 25. 1814.

Dear Sir

I think you showd me last summer a note of the courses and distances, taken by Mr. r. Lewis of my land, lying between the old road, passing by my house, & the top of the mountain, being, the first purchase which I made of Mr. Carter. Mr. Lewis made this survey at the time & in consequence of Mr. Shorts purchase. I will thank you to have the goodness to send me a copy of that survey, as it may save me the trouble & expence of another.

The present appearing to be a favorable time for the sale of land in our state, I advertised my tract in Loudoun some months past, in the hope of profiting of the high price given for such land in that county. In this I have not yet succeeded. As I lately passed thro' Richmond, it was intimated to me, that I might obtain a very advantageous price for my tract in Albemarle, in consequence of which I authorised Mr. T. Taylor to sell it, provided that suggestion could be realised.

It is my intention to sell one of these estates, and to apply the money arising from the sale, to the payment of my debts, and improv'ment of the other. By this arrangment I shall lay

## Library of Congress

the market for both & dispose of that which can be sold to greatest advantage, intending however not to sell that in Albemarle, unless the price shall be such, as to indemnify me for the sacrifice I shall make in relinquishing a residence of 26 years standing, as mine in Albemarle has been, and near old friends to whom I am greatly attached.

Our financial affairs seem likely to take the course which it was easy to anticipate under all the difficulties of our situation. Of monied men they are few in the country, and we cannot expect to obtain loans equal to the demand, from our monied institutions, many of which are not disposed to make them. I do not know, nor do I think, that an absolute failure in that respect, would do us any injury, as it would led to some substitute, more economical, as well as consistent with the state of our country, and the genius of our govt & people. Your ideas had much weight on my mind, but so wedded were our finances to the plan in operation that it was impossible to make any impression on them, then, in favor of any other. Will you have

the goodness to confide to me a copy of your thoughts on this subject with which I was favord last year? The moment for promoting the arrangment contemplated by them is now more favorable, & I shall be happy to avail myself of it.

With great respect I am very sincerely your friend & servant, Jas. Monroe

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).